Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1.-26. (Canceled)

27. (Currently Amended) A method for determining the presence ~~or absence~~ of prostate cancer in a patient, comprising the steps of:

(a) contacting a biological sample obtained from the patient with at least two oligonucleotide primers in a reverse transcription polymerase chain reaction, wherein said oligonucleotide primers are specific for an expressed ~~polynucleotide~~ sequence that comprises SEQ ID NO:67; and

(b) detecting in the sample an amount of a polynucleotide of SEQ ID NO: 67 that amplifies in the presence of the oligonucleotide primers, and thereby detecting the presence ~~or absence~~ of prostate cancer, wherein the biological sample is blood or serum.

28. (Currently Amended) A method for determining the presence ~~or absence~~ of prostate cancer in a patient, comprising the steps of:

(a) contacting a biological sample obtained from the patient with at least two oligonucleotide primers in a reverse transcription polymerase chain reaction, wherein said oligonucleotide primers are specific for an expressed ~~polynucleotide~~ sequence that comprises SEQ ID NO:107; and

(b) detecting in the sample an amount of a polynucleotide of SEQ ID NO: 107 that amplifies in the presence of the oligonucleotide primers, and thereby detecting the presence ~~or absence~~ of prostate cancer.

29. (Currently Amended) A method for determining the presence ~~or absence~~ of prostate cancer in a patient, comprising the steps of:

(a) contacting a biological sample obtained from the patient with at least two oligonucleotide primers in a reverse transcription polymerase chain reaction, wherein said oligonucleotide primers are specific for an expressed ~~polynucleotide~~ sequence that comprises SEQ ID NO:308; and

(b) detecting in the sample an amount of a polynucleotide of SEQ ID NO: 308 that amplifies in the presence of the oligonucleotide primers, and thereby detecting the presence ~~or absence~~ of prostate cancer, wherein the biological sample is blood or serum.

30. (Currently Amended) A method for determining the presence ~~or absence~~ of prostate cancer in a patient, comprising the steps of:

(a) contacting a biological sample obtained from the patient with at least two oligonucleotide primers in a reverse transcription polymerase chain reaction, wherein said oligonucleotide primers are specific for an expressed ~~polynucleotide~~ sequence that comprises SEQ ID NO:311; and

(b) detecting in the sample an amount of a polynucleotide of SEQ ID NO: 311 that amplifies in the presence of the oligonucleotide primers, and thereby detecting the presence ~~or absence~~ of prostate cancer, wherein the biological sample is blood or serum.

31.-39. (Canceled)

40. (New) A method for detecting the presence of prostate cancer in a patient, comprising the steps of:

(a) detecting in a biological sample the level of expression of a mRNA encoding a prostate tumor protein, wherein the prostate tumor protein comprises an amino acid sequence encoded by SEQ ID NO: 107; and

(b) comparing the level of expression detected in the biological sample to a predetermined cut-off value, and thereby detecting the presence or absence of prostate cancer,

wherein an increase in the level of expression in the biological sample compared to a non-cancerous sample is indicative of the presence of prostate cancer.

41. (New) The method of claim 40, wherein step (a) comprises an amplification reaction.

42. (New) The method of claim 41, wherein the amplification reaction is a reverse transcription polymerase chain reaction.

43. (New) The method of claim 41, wherein the amplification reaction is a transcription-mediated amplification reaction.

44. (New) The method of claim 40, wherein the biological sample is blood, sera, urine, biopsies or prostate secretions